

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BONN 11550 221915Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9637

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY BRAZZAVILLE

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY ROME

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 11550

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PEPR, AS, GW, US

SUBJECT: STATUS OF FRG/ANGOLAN RELATIONS

REFS: A) STATE 156359; B) BONN 02880

1. WE INFORMED THE FOREIGN OFFICE OF THE VISIT OF US
REPRESENTATIVES MCHENRY AND JUNIOR TO LUANDA. THE
GERMANS CONSIDER THIS A SIGNIFICANT AND POSITIVE STEP.
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PAGE 02 BONN 11550 221915Z

2. THE LATEST BILATERAL CONTACT BETWEEN THE FRG AND
ANGOLA OCCURRED IN NEW YORK IN MAY WHEN FRG DEPUTY
ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR AFRICAN AFFAIRS MUELLER MET THE
ANGOLAN FOREIGN MINISTER IN THE CORRIDORS OF THE UN FOR
ABOUT 20 MINUTES. WE ARE TOLD THE TALKS WERE GENERAL
AND INCONCLUSIVE, BUT THE ANGOLANS DID RAISE THE

QUESTION OF FRG INVOLVEMENT WITH OTRAG. IN RESPONSE TO THAT INQUIRY THE FRG HAS PREPARED AND DISPATCHED A LETTER TO THE ANGOLAN FOREIGN MINISTER WHICH DENIES ANY OFFICIAL FRG INVOLVEMENT. THE ANGOLANS HAVE NOT YET RESPONDED TO THE GERMAN LETTER.

3. COMMENT: THE FRG IS GENUINELY INTERESTED IN ESTABLISHING DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH LUANDA. THE ANGOLANS, HOWEVER, SEEM TO BE HOLDING BACK AND THE GERMANS BELIEVE OTRAG IS A MAJOR REASON WHY. IN FACT, THE ANGOLAN AMBASSADOR TO BRUSSELS TOLD CHANCELLERY STATE MINISTER WISCHNEWSKI IN FEBRUARY THAT OTRAG WAS THE BARRIER TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF RELATIONS. WHILE WE ACCEPT THAT ANGOLAN CONCERN OVER OTRAG'S ACTIVITIES IS A MAJOR STUMBLING BLOCK TO FRG ANGOLAN TIES, WE BELIEVE GDR INFLUENCE IN LUANDA ALSO PLAYS A ROLE HERE. IN ANY CASE, THE FRG HOPES THAT ITS WRITTEN EXPLANATION OF ITS RELATIONSHIP TO OTRAG (TOGETHER WITH INDICATIONS THAT OTRAG MAY BE SHIFTING ITS BASE OF OPERATIONS TO FRANCE) MAY GET THINGS MOVING TOWARD NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS.
STOESSEL

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